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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,241	08/03/2001	Toru Fujita	04995/026001	9158

22511 7590 03/17/2005

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EXAMINER

GRANT II, JEROME

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/923,241	<b>Applicant(s)</b> FUJITA, TORU	
	<b>Examiner</b> Jerome Grant II	<b>Art Unit</b> 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11 and 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 August 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

JEROME GRANT II  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3-15-05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

### Detailed Action

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Connors et al.

With respect to claim 10, Connors teaches an image forming means using halftone dots formed of gray scales comprising:

A halftone processor 36 as claimed for generating table data (histograms H) wherein the transformation table includes: look-up tables (Histogram H(bw) for example) for storing gray scale data for reproduction; and pattern matrix CS (lookup) with multiple pixels in predetermined area where the image is referred to by LUT, see col. 30, lines 54-60 and wherein the LUTs include position data (includes (i j k coordinates) see col. 29, lines 30-32.

2.

### Claims Allowed

Claims 1-9 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, "... wherein said image reproduction data stored by each of said look-up tables includes size data and position data for virtual dots, each of which corresponds to one of said multiple dot images."

Claims 5-8 and 13 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, "... first look-up tables that each store gray level data and correlated first image reproduction data, including size data for virtual dots, each of

which corresponds to one of said dot images... second look-up tables that each store gray level data and correlated second image reproduction data, including size data for virtual dots, each of which corresponds to one of said dot images."

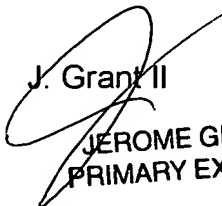
Claim 11 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach wherein said image reproduction data stored by each of said look-up tables includes size data and position data for virtual dots, each of which corresponds to one of said multiple dot images."

Claim 12 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... first look-up tables that each store gray level data and correlated first image reproduction data, including size data for virtual dots, each of which corresponds to one of said dot images; second look-up dabbles that each store gray level data and correlated second image reproduction data, including size data for virtual dots, each of which corresponds to one of said dot images..."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 – 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A Williams, can be reached on 703-305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
J. Grant II  
JEROME GRANT II  
PRIMARY EXAMINER